## HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD STAFF REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

Landmark/District: General Baking Company Bakery (x) Agenda

(Bond Bread Factory)

Address: 2146 Georgia Avenue NW (x) Permit

Meeting Date: April 25, 2013 (x) Raze

Case Number: 13-309

Staff Reviewer: Kim Williams

## **Proposal**

The applicant, Howard Town Center Developer LLC (Cohen Companies), lessee and agent for owner Howard University, requests the Board's review of an application to raze (R1300018) the former General Baking Company Bakery (Bond Bread Factory) at 2146 Georgia Avenue.

The property is the subject of a pending application for landmark designation and must be reviewed first to establish whether the Board will have jurisdiction to review the raze application.

## **Evaluation**

The General Baking Company Bakery (Bond Bread Factory) is significant for its local history and architecture. The building meets National Register Criterion A because it provides an excellent illustration of the baking industry of the early 20th century in the city, and it meets National Register Criterion C because it is a premier example of a purpose-built bakery building, and provides an excellent example of the use of the Art Deco style in the city's industrial architecture.

Demolition is not consistent with the purposes of the preservation act as it pertains to the treatment of landmarks:

- (A) To retain and enhance historic landmarks in the District of Columbia and to encourage their adaptation for current use; and
- (B) To encourage the restoration of historic landmarks.

## Recommendation

If the Board designates the former General Baking Company Bakery (Bond Bread Factory) property a historic landmark, the HPO recommends that the Board find the proposed raze to be inconsistent with the purposes of the preservation act.